

FEAR

MARVEL COMICS GROUP™

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ADVENTURE INTO FEAR WITH
THE MAN CALLED **MORBIUS**™

THE LIVING VAMPIRE



**THRILL-
FRAUGHT
FINAL
ISSUE!**

**THIS
ONE YOU
DARE NOT
MISS!**



END OF A VAMPIRE!

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE MAN CALLED **MORBIUS!**™

THE END OF A VAMPIRE!

POLICE COMMISSIONER
D. WARNER

MARTINE!
NO!!

BOSTON P.D.

YES, MICHAEL DARLING!
WE ARE THE SAME NOW!

WE CAN BE
TOGETHER
AT LAST!

SHE--SHE'S
KILLED
COMMISSIONER
WARNER,
PASTE FACE!

AN' FIANCE OR NO--IF
YOU DON'T USE THAT AXE--
I GOT ME A FEELIN' THAT
WE'RE NEXT ON HER
SOUP LIST!

AN' AFTER THAT INCREDIBLE
ENCAPSULATED RE-CAP OF
LAST ISSUE, WHAT CAN WE
SAY BUT READ ON...?

BROUGHT TO YOU BY... [FRANK ROBBINS, ARTIST] [BILL MANTLO, WRITER] [VINNIE COLLETTA, INKER] [K. MANTLO, LETTERER] [PHIL RACHE, COLORIST] [MARY WOLFMAN, EDITOR]

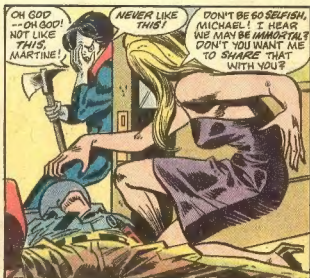


NO, SIMON STROUD!
IT WAS THE OTHER
FEMALE THAT KILLED
HIM-- AND CHANGED
ME--

-- I MERELY
TOOK WHAT SHE
LEFT-- AFTER YOU
KILLED HER!*

AREN'T
YOU
PLEASED,
MICHAEL?
AREN'T YOU
HAPPY?

*YEP, LAST
16H-- MARY.



OH GOD
--OH GOD!
NOT LIKE
THIS,
MARTINE!

NEVER LIKE
THIS!

DON'T BE SO SELFISH,
MICHAEL! I HEAR
WE MAY BE IMMORTAL?
DON'T YOU WANT ME
TO SHARE THAT
WITH YOU?



GIMME
THAT AXE,
LEECH! IF
YOU'RE NOT
GOING TO
BURY THIS
HATCHET--

-- THEN GIVE IT
TO A MAN WHO
WILL!

STROUD!!

POLICE INSPECTION
DEPARTMENT



I HAVE HAD
ENOUGH,
STROUD! IT
WAS YOU WHO
BROUGHT
MARTINE
HERE! YOU
WHO PLACED
HER IN
DANGER!

WAP!



AND IF SHE DIES,
I WILL HUNT YOU,
SIMON STROUD--AND
DRAIN YOU DRY AS
YOU KICK AND SCREAM
FOR LIFE!

BE SHE
WHAT SHE IS,
STROUD-- SHE'S
MINE, AND YOU'LL
NOT TOUCH HER

'KAY, LEECH!
YOU MADE YOUR
POINT!



MICHAEL MORRIS
TURNS FROM THE
EX-CIA AGENT...

...AND FACES
THE WOMAN
HE LOVES.

AS HE THROWS DOWN THE
GLEAMING SILVER AXE,
HE PRAYS, FERVENTLY, THAT
THE CROUCHING FIGURE
BEFORE HIM IS ONLY A
NIGHTMARE THAT WILL
VANISH WHEN NEXT HE
OPENS HIS EYES.

BUT...

MICHAEL, MICHAEL!
WE HAVE WAITED SO LONG
WHILE THESE FOOLS TORTURED
AND TORMENTED US!

LET US
FEAST ON THEM
TOGETHER,
MICHAEL...

-- AS
LOVERS!

BUT IT IS NO DREAM, IS IT,
MORBIUS? NO FLEETING
PHANTOM OF SLEEP?

THE FANGED
AND DROOLING
HORROR
BEFORE YOU
IS MARTINE,
BEYOND ANY
DOUBT...

...AND THE TRUTH BEGINS TO DAWN
UPON YOU, DOESN'T IT?

THAT IT WAS YOUR BITE
THAT STARTED THE PLAGUE
OF VAMPIRISM IN BOSTON
... YOUR BITE THAT DREW
THE VAMPIRES
TO MASON
MANOR...

... AND YOUR BITE
THAT, TRANSMITTED
THRU ANOTHER,
TURNED YOUR
BELOVED INTO...

*LAST ISH-- MARV.

...THIS.

YOU DRAW
AWAY FROM ME,
MICHAEL? DO I
HORRIFY YOU?

AM I
ANY MORE
REPUGNANT
THAN YOU?

SCREAM, MICHAEL
-- IF YOU THINK IT
WILL HELP--

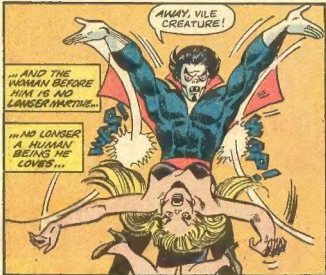
-- BECAUSE IF
YOU'LL NOT HAVE
ME-- IF THE SIGHT
OF ME MAKES
YOU CRINGE--

-- THEN I'LL
KILL YOU,
MICHAEL!

AND WE'LL
BE TOGETHER
ONLY IN
DEATH!

COLD FINGERS
CLUTCH AND
SCRAPE AT THE
COLD SKIN OF
MORBIUS!
NECK!!!

FEEL
ARCH





A PITY I COULDN'T RECIPROCATE!

GOOD-BYE, MICHAEL! PLEASANT DREAMS!

KAR ASSH!



SHE'S GONE, STROUD!

GONE!!

AND NOW THAT YOUR WAY HAS BEEN BLOWN DOWN THE TUBES, LEECH--HOW ABOUT GIVING ME A SHOT AT IT?



THINK, MORBIUS-- THIS IS IMPORTANT! HOW DID YOU BECOME A VAMPIRE?

HOW...

"BY PINNING MY HOPES TO A VAMPIRE BAT, STROUD! BY HOPING TO CURE AN INCURABLE ILLNESS USING SCIENCE AND THE BLOOD OF A SMALL, FURRED MAMMAL!"



"ONLY IT DIDN'T WORK! THE EXPERIMENT WENT AWRY--"



--AND THE ANIMAL'S HUNGER WAS TRANSFERRED TO ME! I RODE THE SHIP, KNOWING MARTINE WAS ABOARD--SENSING HER WARM, VIBRANT BLOOD--

"-- BUT EVENTUALLY I SURRENDERED TO THE HUNGER-- THOUGH I WAS STOPPED BY SPIDER-MAN AT FIRST--"



--AND THEN THE BESTIAL LIZARD--FOR WHAT REASON I STILL DON'T KNOW!*

"BUT THE CRAVING NEVER LEFT ME, STROUD! THE SAME CRAVING THAT NOW INFECTS MARTINE!"



* WAY, WAY BACK IN SPIDEY #102 & 103-- MARV.



THAT'S IT, MORBIUS!

ALL ALONG WE'VE KNOWN THAT A VAMPIRE HAS BEEN COMMITTING THESE MURDERS IN BOSTON-- CHANGING OTHER PEOPLE INTO VAMPS--

--AND AS LONG AS YOUR DISEASE WAS CONSIDERED NON-COMMUNICABLE, YOU WERE CLEARED! BUT THERE'S TRACES OF RADIOACTIVITY IN THEIR BLOODSTREAMS, LEECH--



--WHICH MEANS THAT SOMEHOW--SOME WAY--YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE, AND IT'S YOUR DISEASE WHICH IS SPREADING AND CAUSING THIS PLAGUE!

BUT THEY DISINTEGRATED UPON DYING, STROOD! I'VE BEEN SHOT-- STABBED--STAKED--AND I ALWAYS HEAL!



M-MR. STROOD! PLEASE, SIR!

COME LOOK! RIGHT AWAY!

WHAT THE--?!



GOOD LORD! IT'S THE VAMP WE BROUGHT WITH US FROM MASON MANOR! HE--

HE'S DISINTEGRATED, STROOD! JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM!

*LAST 16H--MARV.



ALL RIGHT, LEECH! THEN TRY THIS ONE ON FOR SIZE! WHAT IF SOMETHING IN YOUR BLOOD MAKES YOU IMMUNE TO THE AFTER-EFFECTS OF THE RADIO-ACTIVITY?

OR WHAT IF YOU YOURSELF CARRY A BLOOD FACTOR THAT CHANGES IT--MAKES IT DEADLY AND CONTAGIOUS WHENEVER YOU TRANS-MIT IT? YOU'RE A SCIENTIST, MORBIUS.

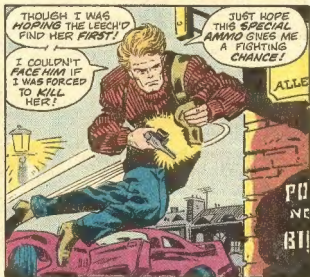
IS IT POSSIBLE OR NOT??



YES--IT IS POSSIBLE, STROOD!

WHICH MEANS THAT I'VE DOOMED MARTINE AS SURELY AS IF I HAD BITTEN HER MYSELF!

IT'S MERELY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE ERRANT BLOOD-FACTOR KILLS HER--DISINTEGRATES HER LIKE ALL THE OTHERS!





SILVER BULLETS! STRAIGHT OUT OF LAWRENCE TALBOT, HUH, STROUD?



MARTINE'S NOT A WEREWOLF--AND HER VAMPIRISM'S MORE BIOLOGY THAN WITCH-CRAFT--

--BUT THEY JUST MIGHT WORK!

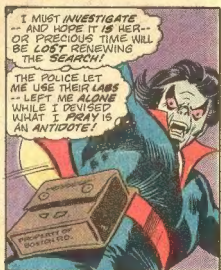
DEAR GOD-- THE SCREAMING'S STOPPED!!



BUT NOT BEFORE IT IS HEARD BY THE MAN CALLED MORBUS.

THE GIRL'S SCREAM CAME FROM THIS NEIGHBORHOOD!

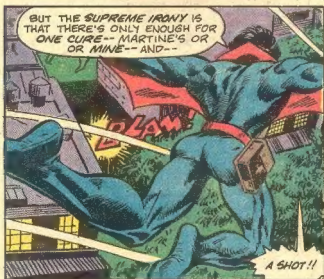
COULD IT BE MARTINE OR--



I MUST INVESTIGATE -- AND HOPE IT IS HER-- OR PRECIOUS TIME WILL BE LOST RENEWING THE SEARCH!

THE POLICE LET ME USE THEIR LABS -- LEFT ME ALONE WHILE I DEVISED WHAT I PRAY IS AN ANTIDOTE!

PROPERTY OF BOSTON P.D.



BUT THE SUPREME IRONY IS THAT THERE'S ONLY ENOUGH FOR ONE CURE-- MARTINE'S OR OR MINE-- AND--

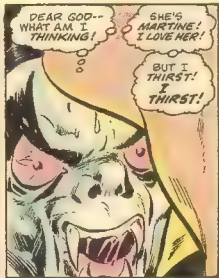
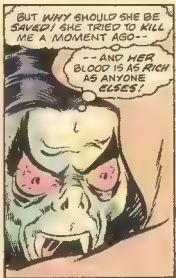
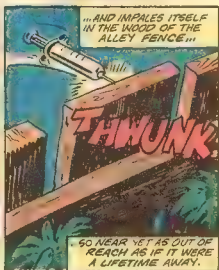
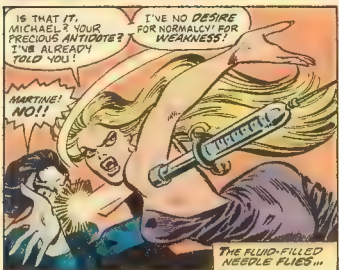
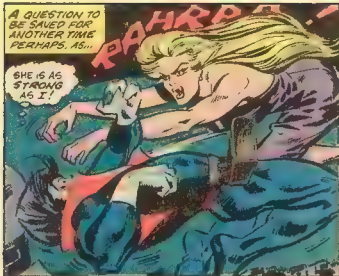
A SHOT!!

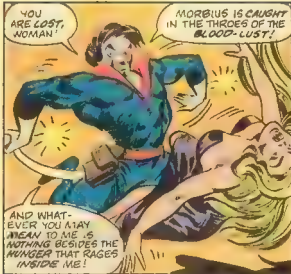


STROUD HAS ALSO BEEN LOOKING FOR MARTINE! IF HE FOUND HER--AND SHE ATTACKED--

STROUD NOOOO!!







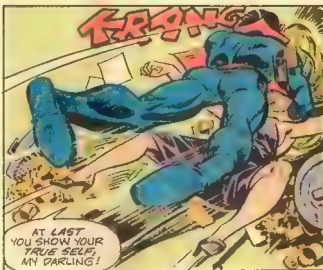
YOU ARE LOST, WOMAN!

MORBIUS IS CAUGHT IN THE THROES OF THE BLOOD-LUST!

AND WHAT-
EVER YOU ATAY
MEAN TO ME IS
NOTHING BESIDES THE
HUNGER THAT RAGES
INSIDE ME!



DIE, WOMAN--
SO THAT I MAY
SLAKE MY THIRST
WITH YOUR LIFE-
BLOOD!



AT LAST
YOU SHOW YOUR
TRUE SELF,
MY DARLING!



AT LAST,
IN YOUR
HUNGER--
WE'RE THE
SAME!

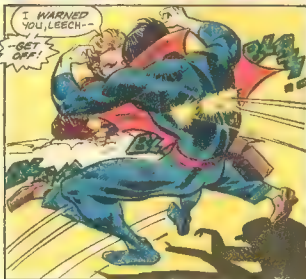
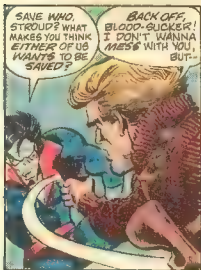
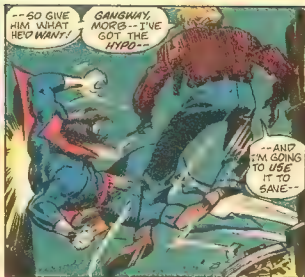
TAKE ME,
MICHAEL--
IF YOU CAN!



GOOD GOD!
THEY'RE BOTH
MAD!

TEARING
AT EACH
OTHER
LIKE
ANIMALS!

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO THE
LEECH'S
CURE?
DIDN'T IT
WORK, OR--?



MAIL IT TO MORBIUS

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 575 MADISON AVE. N.Y.C. 10017

As reported last issue, True Believers, Morbius, the Living Vampire is dead.

That's right. This is the *last* power-packed issue Michael Morbius, world-renowned Nobel Prize Winner, is laid to his rest.

And you are there. (Who knows? If you tell enough of your friends to attend these funeral services for our favorite scientific vampire, maybe sales will pick up enough to resurrect him. Only time will tell.)

Cleo.

Greetings to Any and All Connected with Morbius,

I have just read FEAR #29. What can I say but "terrific." Not only was the script great but also the artwork. Don Heck's work is an immense improvement over Frank Robbins, not only in linear quality but also in action and facial expression. Whoever put Don to work on Morbius sure knew what he was doing.

As to the question about Martine spending the rest of Michael's Nobel Prize money when supposedly there was no money left to spend. Assuredly the scientific equipment on the yacht was worth something. When Michael disappeared, couldn't Martine have sold the equipment and then deposited the money in Michael's name in the belief that he would return someday?

Ingrid Ne'ison
1540 Westchester Ave.
Winter Park, FL 32789

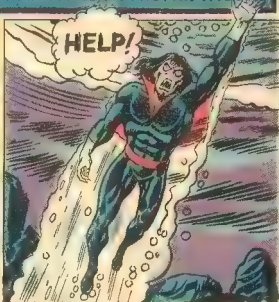
Assuredly, Ingrid, that might be one place where the money came from. However (and there are however's into infinity in the world of comics), Boisterous Bill Mantlo has his own theory as to the appearance of that Marvel moola. And if he can't get to it before the demise of this title, there's always Lively Len Wein to solve the matter in the pages of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

Who says this isn't the MARVEL AGE of loose-and-tie-ups?

Gentlemen:

Please forget the Mr. Schutkeker's idea that would call for you turning Simon Stroud into a copy of Carl Kolchak. In fact forget about doing anymore "inventory" tales like POWER MAN #26 that come from the Kolchak stories. Why not just get the rights to our favorite reporter and introduce him in this comic? If it comes out good, give him his own. You did it with PLANET OF THE APES, you can do it with him. Please try.

Philip Gavigan
Argyle, WI 53504



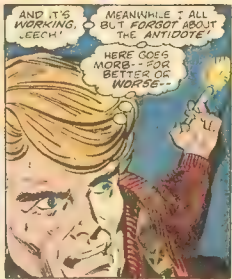
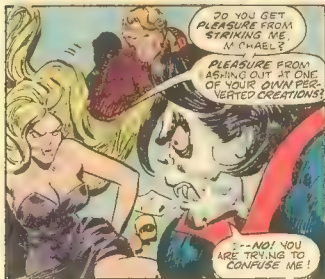
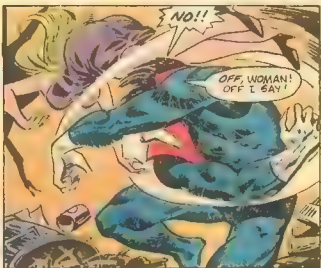
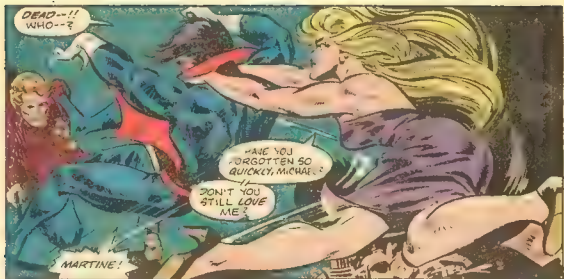
Well, Phil, we're sure that many of our award-winning writers would be willing to *script* such a title, but it just seems that there are so many *new* projects that our staff wishes to work on (Such as THE CHAMPIONS, THE SCARECROW, BLOODSTONE, MODRED THE MYSTIC, LIBERTY LEGION, etc.) that there's hardly enough left-over energy for books adapted from other media, although Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH, *author* of those self-same PLANET OF THE APES tales, would beg to differ!

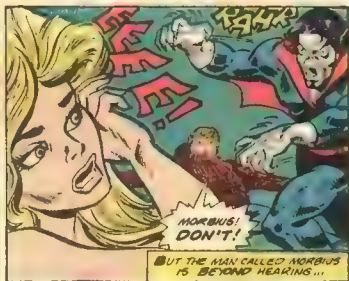
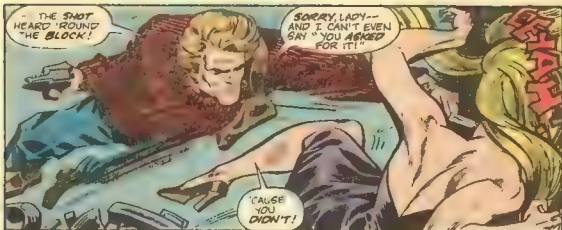
A stainless-steel No-Prize will be given to the author of the best obituary for Michael Morbius.

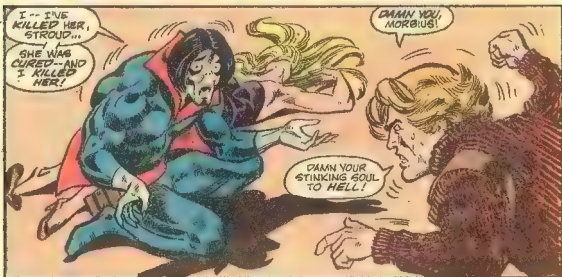
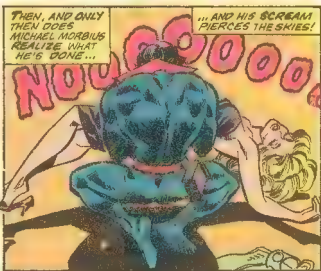
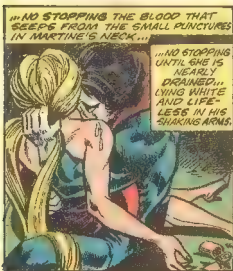
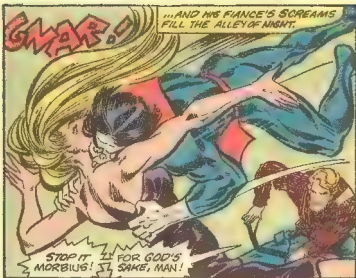


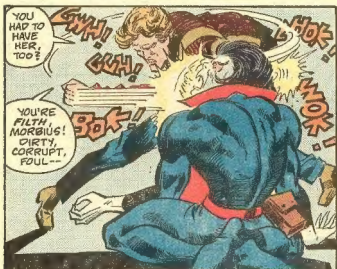
THIS IS IT! YOUR
MARVEL
VALUE
STAMP

FOR THIS ISSUE!
CLIP 'EM AND
COLLECT 'EM!









A HEARTY HELPING OF HIGH-FALUTIN', HABIT-FORMIN' HAPPENINGS FROM YOUR HUMBLE HOUSE OF IDEAS!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

The secret's out! SON OF ORIGINS goes on sale 'most any day now! And rather than have you pick up information from the kids on the street, we'll tell you ourselves exactly what it contains! Within its big, beautiful, full-color pages you'll find the fabulous origin stories of THE X-MEN, IRON MAN, THE AVENGERS, DAREDEVIL, SHIELD, THE WATCHER, and also—the greatest surprise bonus of the year—the original 38-page masterpiece presentation of the origin of—THE SILVER SURFER! All that plus the original cover from each of the magazines, plus a few extra tales just 'cause we love ya, in the most beautiful gift edition you can imagine; for only \$5.95 at your neighborhood bookstore for the elegant, colorful, luxury paperback version, or \$9.95 for the cloth-bound hardcover edition! Now do you see why publishing insiders are betting that SON OF ORIGINS might even top the fantastic sales record of the best-selling ORIGINS OF MARVEL COMICS itself? Anyway, that's the good news. Now for the bad. In addition to all the great origin stories, you'll also find page after page of anecdotes and reminiscences by loveable ol' me! But don't worry about it. You don't really have to read them if you don't wanna! You should worry that I typed my fingers to the bone, pouring my heart out onto the printed page, just for you! Go ahead, just look at the pictures—see if I care! But, whatever you do, be sure to leave enough space on your bookshelf, because there'll probably be a third book in the series next year! We're planning to make it an annual event, like the All-Star Game, or Groundhog Day! And, after the books are out of print, imagine what your set may be worth! On second thought, forget the bookshelf. Maybe you'd better keep 'em in a vault!

Well, I'll sign off now, to give you a chance to recover from the emotional trauma I've just put you through! So, till we meet again, remember: why waste your fists to fight with a foe, when a smile might make him your friend?

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! You've been breaking down our door for them, you've demanded them, nay, you've verily threatened to storm our hallowed halls for them, and now, at last, they're here! What's here, we hear a voice pipe up from the Peanut Gallery? Why, nothing less than the scintillating second series of our merely magnificent Marvel

Value Stamps! After facing every pothole and pitfall imaginable, your batty Bullpen has managed to put together the greatest, grandest, and goofiest grab-bag goodie ever offered for a mere handful of shekels. Featuring the wildest stamps since Galactus sent the Silver Surfer by air-mail express to Hoboken, our latest and looniest stamp book contains ten superbly super and sensational jigsaw puzzles, featuring the finest artwork that money and discarded back-date issues of NOT BRAND ECCH can buy! Each miniscule and perforated piece of pictorial splendor represents just one-tenth of a pulsating pin-up, so when your Marvel Value Stampbook is complete, you'll have a regular portfolio of Marvel's Greatest Comic Heroes (Hey, that's not a bad name for a new book, Stan.) How and where to order this spanking-new stamp book? Well, keep your eyes peeled for these pages, 'cause in a month or two we'll spring the all-important info on ya. Who says this isn't the Marvel Age of Special Surprises?

ITEM! Speaking of shocking surprises and marvelous Marvel's magnificent merchandising, have ya seen the latest, merely the greatest, tenth issue of FOOOM Magazine yet? It only features an all-X-Men issue with a special capricious cover by that dynamic doodler, DAVE COCKRUM. But then, who in this, The Mighty Marvel Renaissance, hasn't seen and read those fantastic articles, or perused the InFOOMation section for what's coming down from the House of Ideas? Of course, if by some fluke, you are one of the very few who have not yet subscribed, you still have the chance by sending in that FOOOM coupon found elsewhere in this mag. See how easy we make things for ya, Favored One?

ITEM! If you rush (don't walk) to your newstands, you may still be able to find a copy of the MARVELOUS WIZARD OF OZ, featuring the sensational scripting of Rascally ROY THOMAS, the pulse-pounding penciling of Big JOHN BUSCEMA, and the incredible inking by the talented TRIBE. Pick up. Merry Marvel's magical adaptation of the MGM classic rightaway! It's sure to make comic mag history!

ITEM! Who ever heard of a comic book in which the lead character doesn't appear? Madcap Marvel, that's who! 'Cause, if you play your cards right and pick up the latest issues of TOMB OF DRACULA produced by our eternally erudite editor-in-chief Marvelous MARV WOLFMAN, Genial GENE COLAN, and Terrific TOM PALMER, you can not only catch the captivat'n climax of the two-year battle with Doctor Sun, but you may suddenly realize that the Lord Of Vampires isn't in the action. Howcum, True Believer? Well, take a peek behind the pages of Comicdom's number one magazine of fear. We've got a hunch you may dig what you see!

ITEM! Remember how we've always said you can't follow the artist/writer switches at Merry Marvel without a scorecard? Well, here it is! In the space provided below, simply write in the initials of the artist/writer team working on each feature. Suggestion: use a pencil...and keep an eraser handy—you'll need it!

THE AVENGERS	_____
BLACK GOLIATH	_____
BLACK PANTHER	_____
CAPTAIN AMERICA	_____
CAPTAIN MARVEL	_____
THE CHAMPIONS	_____
CONAN	_____
DAREDEVIL	_____
DEATHLOK	_____
THE DEFENDERS	_____
DOCTOR STRANGE	_____
DRACULA	_____
FANTASTIC FOUR	_____
GHOST RIDER	_____
GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY	_____
HOWARD THE DUCK	_____
HULK	_____
THE INHUMANS	_____
THE INVADERS	_____
IRON FIST	_____
IRON MAN	_____
KAZAR	_____
KILLRAVEN	_____
MARVEL TEAM-UP	_____
MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE	_____
MASTER OF KUNG FU	_____
OMEGA	_____
POWER MAN	_____
THE SCARECROW	_____
SKULL	_____
SON OF SATAN	_____
SPIDER-MAN	_____
SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP	_____
THOR	_____
TIGRA	_____
WARLOCK	_____
X-MEN	_____
CLIP AND SAVE!	

And if one or two of the strips listed above seem unfamiliar, it's probably because we haven't gotten around to announcing them yet—but hang in there! We'll tell all next month!

A BULLPEN EXTRA

Wanna hear 5 far-out minutes of the FANTASTIC FOUR on radio each day, Monday through Friday? A new series is now in production—in stereo, with special sound effects, and narrated by Stan the Man! If it's not yet listed in your city, call or write the station manager or program director of your favorite station and tell him to contact our producer, Robert Michelson, 135 W. 87th St., NYC, NY 10024, pronto! We're slated for broadcast Sept. 8th, so kindle your kilocycles, 'cause Marvel's on the move! (and some day we may find out where we're going!)

